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**FATHER AND SON CONVICTED OF TRIPLE HOMICIDE RELATED TO DRUG  
CONSPIRACY AFTER 7-WEEK TRIAL IN MANHATTAN FEDERAL COURT**

DAVID N. KELLEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced today that ELIJAH BOBBY WILLIAMS, a/k/a "Bobby Torres," and his son, MICHAEL WILLIAMS, a/k/a "David Michael Torres," were found guilty in Manhattan federal court after a seven-week trial before United States District Judge NAOMI REICE BUCHWALD of racketeering, racketeering conspiracy, murder, firearms, and narcotics charges.

The murder charges stemmed from the February 18, 1996, triple homicide of Timothy Moore, Joel Moore, and Robert James in Wilkinsburg, Pennsylvania. MICHAEL WILLIAMS was also found guilty of conspiring to murder Victor Mercado in the Bronx in October 1995 and of conspiring to murder Bernard Williams, a/k/a "Diamond" in the Bronx in January 1996.

ELIJAH BOBBY WILLIAMS and MICHAEL WILLIAMS were arrested and charged by federal authorities in September 2000, along with Xavier Williams, brother of ELIJAH BOBBY WILLIAMS and uncle of MICHAEL WILLIAMS. Xavier Williams, whose trial was severed from that of his brother and nephew, is scheduled to face

racketeering, racketeering conspiracy, murder, firearms, and narcotics charges on June 20, 2005.

The evidence presented at trial established that ELIJAH BOBBY WILLIAMS and MICHAEL WILLIAMS were members of a violent enterprise, the Torres Organization, named after the name the WILLIAMSES used to hide their true identity while selling drugs in the Pittsburgh area. The evidence further established that the Torres Organization distributed narcotics from the Bronx to the Pittsburgh area, and that members of the organization, including ELIJAH BOBBY WILLIAMS and MICHAEL WILLIAMS, relied upon acts of violence, including the execution-style murder of the three men in Wilkinsburg, Pennsylvania, a small community next to Pittsburgh, to maintain and increase their positions in the enterprise.

According to the evidence at trial, the members of the Torres Organization used vehicles leased from companies in Pennsylvania and New York to transport narcotics, cash drug proceeds and firearms from the Bronx to the Pittsburgh area. Some of these vehicles were outfitted with secret compartments to conceal narcotics, cash drug proceeds and firearms. In addition, at least one of these vehicles was outfitted with counter-surveillance devices, including rotating license plates and high-intensity rear halogen lights to blind pursuers. The narcotics

would then be sold to customers in the Pittsburgh area for double and triple their New York value.

The jury convicted ELIJAH BOBBY WILLIAMS and MICHAEL WILLIAMS of murdering Timothy Moore, Joel Moore, and Robert James to enhance their positions in the Torres Organization, and with using guns in the course of committing that triple murder. The testimony at trial showed that Timothy Moore and Robert James were drug customers of the WILLIAMS family. Joel Moore, however, was not a drug customer of the WILLIAMSES and was murdered simply because he happened to be in the car with Timothy Moore and Robert James when they went to meet with the WILLIAMSES to discuss drug business. According to the evidence at trial, ELIJAH BOBBY WILLIAMS and MICHAEL WILLIAMS fired 22 shots into Timothy Moore's car, after luring the victims to a quiet residential street.

According to Mr. KELLEY, these convictions are the result of a long-term investigation by the United States Attorney's Office, the Allegheny County Police Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and the New York City Police Department. Mr. KELLEY praised the outstanding efforts of the Allegheny County Police Department, members of which have remained committed to this prosecution since 1996.

As a result of these convictions, both ELIJAH BOBBY WILLIAMS and MICHAEL WILLIAMS are eligible for the death penalty. The jury will begin to hear evidence to determine whether the defendants will receive the death penalty on May 9, 2005.

Assistant United States Attorneys RICHARD C. DADDARIO, HELEN V. CANTWELL, and GLEN G. MCGORTY are in charge of the prosecution.

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